Secret or Perceived Exposures

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Project SHAD Health Study

- **SHAD study evaluated health outcomes in test participants compared to other comparable group not involved in SHAD.**
- **Overall mortality did not differ between participants and the control group.**
  - **Participants had a statistically significant occurrence of heart disease. HR-1.20.**
- **Both participants and controls had death rates slightly higher than the general U.S. population.**

Project SHAD Health Study

- **Both participants and controls had average physical and mental health scores that were lower than national norms, but higher than those of a sample of veterans receiving VA outpatient treatment.**
  - Participants had lower scores than controls
  - Smallest difference was for those participants who were exposed to live agents.

Project SHAD Health Study

- Appendix A of the study report describes test substances effects.
- For most substances described, reference is made to a supplemental report – *Psychogenic Effects of Perceived Exposure to Biochemical Warfare Agents* – that was not included in the health study report.
- IOM did not plan to make the supplemental report available.
- FHP&R requested that IOM publish the report on their website.

Supplemental Report

- Perceived exposure to biochemical agents does lead to psychogenic effects.
  - PTSD is the most common reported effect
- Secrecy of tests can exacerbate psychogenic effects.